

Application No. 10/664,908
Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111 dated September 2, 2004
Response to the Office Action of May 12, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 7 (Canceled)

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A biochip reader ~~configured~~ comprising:

a light source to irradiate an excitation light beam to a sample[[,]] ;

an image-forming optical system to form an image of fluorescence generated from fluorescent substances in said sample ~~via an image-forming optical system, and irradiated by said~~
excitation light beam;

a detector to read ~~that the image with a detector and;~~

~~wherein a mask to prevent~~ mixing of reflected excitation light into the detector ~~side is prevented by mounting a mask,~~ that has approximately the same area as that for ~~the~~ a diameter of said excitation light beam and masks the excitation light beam focused with ~~the~~ an objective lens[[,]] in said image-forming optical system.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A biochip reader ~~configured~~ comprising:

a light source to irradiate an excitation light beam to a sample [[,]] ;

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an image-forming optical system to form an image of fluorescence generated from fluorescent substances in said sample ~~via an image-forming optical system, and~~ irradiated by said excitation light beam;

a detector to read ~~that the image with a detector and;~~

~~wherein~~ a mirror to prevent mixing of reflected excitation light into the detector side ~~is prevented by mounting a mirror,~~ that has approximately the same area as that for ~~the~~ a diameter of said excitation light beam and reflects the excitation light beam focused with ~~the~~ an objective lens[[,]] in said image-forming optical system.

Claims 10 – 16 (Canceled)